

STATINTL

FEB 25 1967

REPORT GIVEN NEXT DAY

Not in on Tofte Raid, CIA Chief Helms Says

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CIA Director Richard M. Helms has stated under oath that he was not told until afterward that his agents had raided the Georgetown home of CIA undercover operator Hans V. Tofte last July.

In answers to questions in depositions taken by Mr. Tofte's lawyer, Mr. Helms said that "according to my present recollection" the July 24 raid wasn't reported to him until the next day.

He wasn't asked whether he was aware of plans for the raid, hatched the day before, according to one agent who participated.

Mr. Tofte was fired in October because of the documents found in his home, and his suit against Mr. Helms, two CIA agents and the wife of one of them, claims someone stole a personal letter from Mr. Helms to him from one of his private notebooks taken to CIA headquarters.

The CIA at first denied such a letter ever existed, then later offered to give Mr. Tofte a certified copy of it if he would drop his suit.

But in his statement, filed in District Court yesterday, Mr. Helms admitted he had copies of not one, but two letters he wrote Mr. Tofte, dated Aug. 23 and Sept. 27, 1955.

In his sworn statement Mr. Helms said he has never seen any of the documents taken from Mr. Tofte's Georgetown home last July.

Also filed in the Court yesterday were statements by the young CIA agent and his wife who said they "accidentally" discovered the CIA documents on the third floor of the Tofte home during a visit to inspect a basement apartment that was for rent.

They are Kenneth Roy Slocum, 24, of 8425 Overbrook Road, Fairfax, and his wife, Judy, an employee of the Air Force Aid Society.

A deposition said a CIA security officer was "distracting" Mr. Tofte's 88-year-old mother-in-law, the only member of the family at home, during the Slocums' visit.